



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were higher in the West, mixed but mostly unchanged elsewhere. Trade sentiment was steady in the East, at least steady in all other areas. Retail demand was slow to light with few features to aid movement. Food service was in a full range, best for fast food promotions. Supplies were usually sufficient with smaller sizes frequently closer balanced, and heavy weights more available. In the parts structure, breast items were in good balance to limited, dark meat was at least adequate, and wings were mixed, but obtainable. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at desirable to heavy, mostly desirable weights.

Final report Report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 3/29/04-04/02/04 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A (Includes branded product)		COMPOSITE		
	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	LOADS	WTD AVG	LOADS
	Delivered to First Receivers				
Bos/New Eng	76.00-79.00	77.88	13	71.93	44
Chicago	71.00-74.00	73.82	38	76.04	75
Ohio Cities	TFEWR	—	—	75.31	23
Denver	78.50	78.50	14	79.15	17
Detroit	72.00-73.00	73.00	10	75.20	43
Los Angeles	79.00	78.98	57	79.77	146
New York	75.00-77.00	76.33	24	76.28	44
Philadelphia	75.50-77.00	76.23	13	75.31	24
Pittsburgh	76.00-78.00	77.25	12	76.09	57
St. Louis	73.00-73.25	73.03	22	72.55	47
San Francisco	79.50	80.02	32	83.68	68
Composite Weighted Average					
Loads	03/29/04	Change/Last Wk	03/22/04	03/31/03	
588	76.77	0.25	76.52	57.71	

WOG BROILERS (without giblets) - prices paid per lb delvd to first receivers in trucklot and less than trucklot quantities.

REGIONS	MAJORITY	WTD AV	LOADS
East	75.00-79.00	78.14	37
Central	72.00-80.00	78.62	69
West	82.00-86.00	83.74	41
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent			
Mississippi	73.50-74.50	74.29	81

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 73.75 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

LOADS	RANGE	MONDAY FINAL WTD AVG FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT
1,064	68.25-77.00	72.66

The Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed final weighted average prices on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD AVG (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	253.00	1,461
BREASTS - B/S	226.50	5,763
BREASTS - WHOLE	121.50	2,007
THIGH MEAT - B/S	118.00	1,107
LEG QUARTERS	34.50	8,106
WINGS	129.50	3,074

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYER Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was only fair for early week business. Offerings of all sizes were at least sufficient for current needs. Retail and distributive movement was light to fair. The market tone was mostly steady. In the parts complex, breast items were in good balance. Leg items were adequate to available and wings were at least sufficient.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was at least steady following the weekend. Demand was fair to moderate, best for fast food specials and for active retail features, although limited. Supplies were sufficient to closer balanced and clearing satisfactorily. In the parts structure, breast items were close balanced to tight of an active call and moving well. Wings were sufficient and clearing, and dark meat items were available with limited interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Final majority prices were 1 cent higher than last Monday's levels. Trading reported at unchanged to mainly higher prices. Offerings in fair balance. Retailer demand fairly good overall. Dealers reported satisfactory weekend clearances. The market tone on parts steady to barely steady on dark meat and fully steady to firm on white meat. Reported trading activity on parts for this week's delivery: leg quarters 34-37.5 bulk and mainly 4/10s 37.5, breast bone-in at 121-128 and boneless 206-217, wings at 126-127, boneless leg meat 83-90. The Los Angeles negotiated WOG weighted average was 84.39 up 3.35 from last week's level with the volume reported at 27 loads unchanged.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER Final majority prices were unchanged to lower into Detroit, unchanged elsewhere; Ohio cities TFEWR from last Monday's final. Whole broiler/fryer market tone was steady to fully steady. Buyer interest and offerings were limited. Retail demand was slow to light. Food service movement was in a full range, best into fast food promotions. Floor stocks adequate. Weights desirable to heavy. Offerings of dark meat cuts fully adequate while white meat items continue limited. Market tone was steady to firm on breast items and steady to weak on dark meat items.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds were mostly moderate entering the week. Offerings varied from plant to plant but were generally sufficient overall. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processing schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 76 to 87 cents. Trade sentiment was at least steady. In the parts complex, supplies were adequate to well cleared. Breast items were no more than adequate and clearing satisfactorily; leg items were fully adequate. Wings were available.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A	
RANGE	61-91
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	79.01
NO. OF BOXES	7,660

*7 of 7 plants reporting.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying activity was typical for early week business. Demand was mostly fair with buyers taking a wait and see position. However, offerings were also in close balance to slightly more available. Wings were adequate to fully adequate. Dark meat cuts were sufficient with b/s thighs adequate to at times available. Retail and distributive draw was about fair. Fast food draw was good. The market tone was unsettled on wings, and generally steady on balance of items.

ICE-PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

ITEM	NEGOTIATED	CURRENT TRADING	WTD AVG	VOLUME /LBS
BREAST - B/S		220	217.74	559,793
TENDERLOINS		235	223.02	92,360
BREAST - WITH RIBS	114-115		119.26	206,400
BREAST - LINE RUN	114		114.76	121,320
LEGS	43-44		41.31	300,360
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	33-34		29.98	489,094
DRUMSTICKS	32-33		38.92	161,050
THIGHS	42-43		48.23	36,080
B/S THIGHS	110-111		105.60	76,760
WINGS (WHOLE)	116-117		120.03	175,960
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12		11.99	29,840
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40		33.89	18,800
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60		59.94	18,360

INCLUDES NEW YORK CITY METROPOLITAN AREA, NORTHERN NEW JERSEY, MASSACHUSETTS, CONNECTICUT, RHODE ISLAND, AND PENNSYLVANIA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ARKANSAS BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	LBS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WT. AVG
BREAST - B/S	1,955	156.00-254.00	206-217	210.16
TENDERLOINS	282	220.00-278.00	230-233	231.22
BREAST - WITH RIBS	288	117.00-122.00	117-119	118.10
FRONT HALVES		NO TRADING - REPORTED		
LEGS		NO TRADING - REPORTED		
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	920	31.00-32.00	31	31.13
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	3,553	33.00-34.00	33	33.19
WINGS (WHOLE)		NO TRADING - REPORTED		
DRUMSTICKS		NO TRADING - REPORTED		
THIGHS	1,145	23.00-44.00	38-44	43.01

**ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)
FOR MONDAY 29-Mar-04**

	ESTIMATE	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	03/29	03/25	03/25	03/22	03/18
ALA	3,904	3,813	5.12	3,873	5.15
ARK	5,299	5,207	4.99	5,197	4.87
DELMARVA	2,183	2,177	5.42	2,109	5.45
KY-LA-TN	2,069	1,949	4.88	2,058	4.88
MISS	3,099	2,940	5.43	3,050	5.36
NC	2,433	2,451	6.28	2,391	6.31
TEXAS	2,307	2,386	5.05	2,382	5.00
TOTAL	21,294	20,923	5.27	21,060	5.23
MON	21,294(A)			21,060 (A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 29-Mar 2004 is estimated to be 31,858,000 up 0.81 percent from a week ago and up 1.82 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,603,000 last year 31,290,000)

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	818	214.00-296.00	214-218	217.69
TENDERLOINS	253	223.00-278.00	223-228	236.34
BREAST - LINE RUN	120	114.00-127.00	114-116	115.92
FRONT HALVES		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEGS	103	37.00-60.00	38-39	40.34
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	748	30.00-33.00	30-31	30.81
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	955	32.00-38.00	33-35	33.87
WINGS (WHOLE)	293	122.00-134.00	122-125	124.03
WINGS (CUT)	522	137.00-142.00	-	139.41
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
B/S THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR MARCH 29, 2004 — F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S RANGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
69.00 - 73.50	71.07
	70.95

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER ICE-PACKED POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES DELIVERED TO IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, AND WI WEEK OF 29-MAR-2004 TO 02-APR-2004, CENTS PER POUND

	Price Per Lb.	Mostly
BREAST - B/S	210.00 - 227.00	210.00 - 220.00
BREAST - LINE RUN	115.00 - 130.00	115.00 - 118.00
LEGS	39.00 - 50.00	-
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	31.00 - 36.00	33.00 - 34.00
DRUMSTICKS	33.00 - 42.00	-
THIGHS	45.00 - 54.00	-
WINGS (WHOLE)	119.00 - 133.00	122.00 - 124.00
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	12.00 - 20.00	-
LIVERS	30.00 - 35.00	-
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40.00 - 55.00	-

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY,
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	RANGE
WOGS 2# & UP - WHOLE	90.75-91
WOGS 2# & UP - CUT UP 8&9 PIECES	93.75-98

FROZEN HENS 5# & UP
FROZEN DUCKS
FROZEN SQUABS 585-600

**DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
(L.A. AREA)**

FRESH FRYERS	93-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	95-105
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	71-77
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	102-104
	DRY PACK	104-107
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	109
	DRY PACK	105-109
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	93
	DRY PACK	93-95
DUCKS		152-175

EASTERN REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE EASTERN REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

26-MAR-2004

CHICKEN — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT	CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS					
RANGE		-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE					

CHICKEN WITH SKIN ADDED — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT	CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS					
RANGE	13.50-16.25		-	1,492,000	1,092,000
WTD AVERAGE	15.43				
15-20%					
RANGE	13.00-19.00	12.50-16.00		2,136,800	936,000
WTD AVERAGE	16.22	13.64			
20% OR MORE					
RANGE			12.00	120,000	-
WTD AVERAGE			12.00		

* INCLUDES THE STATES of CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to week earlier. Demand was mostly moderate. Offerings were at least adequate. Processing schedules were reported as normal. Supplies of finished product were clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was steady to at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 29-MAR-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6-10.25	8.75-9.25	8.92
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

CENTRAL REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE CENTRAL REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

26-MAR-2004

CHICKEN — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT	CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS					
RANGE		-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE					

CHICKEN, WITH SKIN ADDED — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT	CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS					
RANGE		18.00	13.00-15.00	162,400	20,400
WTD AVERAGE		18.00	13.50		
15-20%					
RANGE	13.00-17.00	12.00-15.00		1,923,600	1,212,000
WTD AVERAGE	13.97	14.20			
20% OR MORE					
RANGE		-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE					

* INCLUDES THE STATES of AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Trading levels were slightly higher compared to the past week. Demand was moderate for fully adequate offerings from production areas. Finished sales were moderate. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 29-MAR-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.25-12	8.75-9.25	9.22

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

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